

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 ORM-02 /085 W

----- 100285

R 201009Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 467

INFO AMEMBASSY BONGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, UNHCR, RP

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH NEW UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE

1. ON SEPT 17, CHIEF OF VISA SECTION AND POLOFF MET WITH WERNER BLATTER, NEWLY APPOINTED UNHCR REP TO THE PHILIPPINES. MEETING WAS FOLLOW UP TO LUNCHEON IN HIS HONOR GIVEN BY CONGEN. BLATTER HAS PREVIOUSLY CALLED ON DCM. BLATTER, WHO IS IN PROCESS OF MOVING WIFE FROM BANGKOK TO MANILA, EXPECTS TO BE BACK IN MANILA IN EARLY OCTOBER WHEN HE IS SCHEDULED TO BE UNHCR OBSERVER AT IMF MEETING.

2. BLATTER SAID HIS PRINCIPAL CONCERN AT THE MOMENT IS FABELLA CENTER. HE BELIEVES IT IS OVERCROWDED, AND HE MAY RECOMMEND TO GENEVA THAT UNHCR RENT ADDITIONAL SPACE OR OTHERWISE IMPROVE FABELLA. BEFORE DOING THIS, HOWEVER,

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HE WISHED TO GET BETTER IDEA FROM USG HOW MANY VIETNAMESE

REFUGEES, PARTICULARLY BOAT CASES, WE WERE PREPARED TO MOVE AND OUR TIME FRAME. CONSOFF REPLIED THAT WE COULD ESTIMATE ON THOSE REFUGEES IN PIPELINE PRIOR TO JULY 1, BUT COULD PROVIDE NO ASSURANCES ON NUMBERS FOR THOSE WHO ARRIVED AFTER THAT.

3. BLATTER SAID THAT THERE ARE NOW APPROX 410 VEITNAMESE REFUGEES IN COUNTRY. THREE HUNDRED ARE IN FABELLA CENTER. LATEST GROUP OF REFUGEES TO ARRIVE (SUBSEQUENT TO HUDSON GROUP) IS GROUP OF 55 AT PUERTO PRINCESSA IN PALAWAN. BLATTER INTENDS TO INTERVIEW THEM UPON HIS RETURN.

4. UPON HIS RETURN, BALTTTER ALSO PLANS TO CONVENE MEETING OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS MOST LIKELY TO TAKE IN BOAT CASES. HE SPECIFIED FRANCE, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA IN ADDITION TO US. MEETING WILL BE AIMED AT "RATIONALIZING" REFUGEE PROCESSING. BLATTER DECRIED INSTANCES WHERE REFUGEES QUALIFY FOR TWO COUNTRIES AT SAME TIME BUT CHOSE US, HUS DEPRIVING LESS QUALIFIED REFUGEES OF SPACES. HE SAID HE WOULD BE ADAMENT IN INSISTING THAT THOSE WHO QUALIFY FOR FRANCE OR CANADA NOT SEEK TO GO TO US AT SAME TIME. CONSOFF INDICATED WE SUPPORTED THIS CONCEPT.

5. COMMENT: SO FAR, BLATTER HAS LIVED UP TO HIS NOTICES. HE IS ENERGETIC AND APPEARS TO HAVE MADE A GOOD BEGINNING WITH THE GOP. TO BE IN A POSITION TO ANSWER BLATTER ON WIDER POLICY QUESTIONS, EMBASSY WOULD APPRCIATE HEARING RESULTS OF REPRESENTATIONS TO SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM DIRECTED IN STATE 217215.  
SULLIVAN

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 20 SEP 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SREF, RP, UNHCR, (BLATTER, WERNER)  
**To:** STATE  
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